



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

TESTIMONY PRESENTED BEFORE THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE February 26, 2007

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Senate Bill 80 - An Act Concerning Youth Camp Licensure Requirements and Certain Boys & Girls Clubs Operating "Drop-In Center" Programs

The Department of Public Health provides the following information with regard to Senate Bill 80.

The Department does not support expanding the list of programs that are exempt from youth camp licensing. Licensing of youth camps establishes minimum standards for program operation including safety of grounds and program practices, health care, records, qualifications of staff, supervision, qualified and trained staff, staff child ratios, and medication administration. Licensing gives parents assurances of independent oversight and monitoring to help assure safety and good outcomes for their children who are attending camp.

As currently written, this bill proposes to exempt one youth camp program that is operated by the Boys & Girls Club in New Britain as a "drop-in center".

Thank you for your consideration of the Department's views on this bill.

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